

You at the FCC need to remember that the airwaves belong to the people of the United States. We own them, not some broadcasting company. Therefore broadcasting companies in order to keep their licences need to be well regulated. This is the job of the FCC. Is the FCC doing its job? It doesn't seem so since Sinclair can order its affiliate stations to carry its own propaganda. Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the need for strict regulation by the FCC and the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.